

11/12/03

Please type a plus (+) inside this box

PTO/SB/08A (10-96)

Approved for use through 10/31/99. OMB0651-0031

Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

[Substitute for form 1449A/PTO]

[Complete if Known]

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

Application Number:

60/425,804

Filing Date:

November 12, 2002

First Named Inventor:

Boatman, et al.

Group Art Unit:

Examiner Name:

Attorney Docket No.:

SOF153/143706

Page 1 of 3

U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. 1	U. S. Patent Document		Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YY	Pages, Columns, Lines Where Relevant Figures Appear
		Number/ Kind Code				
B		2,895,300		Hayward	7/22/53	
B		2,882,536		Jordan	12/29/55	
B		3,155,069		Ross, et al.	8/13/63	
B		3,354,479		Koppenol, et al.	12/15/65	
B		3,380,091		Saurin, et al.	1/10/66	
B		3,726,247		Dalzell	4/10/73	
B		3,783,816		de Chassy, et al.	1/8/74	
B		3,899,990		Lecomte	8/19/75	
B		3,908,212		van Heijst	9/30/75	
B		4,029,039		van Heijst	6/14/77	
B		4,088,089		Flory	5/9/78	
B		4,182,389		Guillaume, et al.	1/8/80	
B		4,309,955		Kentosh	1/12/82	
B		4,351,260		Tuson, et al.	9/28/82	
B		4,352,596		Hammett	10/5/82	
B		4,406,636		van Heijst, et al.	9/27/83	
B		4,490,121		Coppens, et al.	12/25/84	

Examiner

Signature:

Date

Considered:

*Examiner: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

1 Unique citation designation number. 2 See attached kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. 3 Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). 4 For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. 5 Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. 6 Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 2.0 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, D.C. 20231. **DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS.** Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.

11/12/03

Please type a plus (+) inside this box

PTO/SB/08A (10-96)
Approved for use through 10/31/99. OMB0651-0031
Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

[Substitute for form 1449A/PTO]

[Complete if Known]

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

Application Number: 60/425,804 ; 10/21/2007
Filing Date: November 12, 2002
First Named Inventor: Boatman, et al.
Group Art Unit:
Examiner Name:
Attorney Docket No.: SOF153/143706

Page 2 of 3

83	4,516,942	Pedersen	5/14/85
83	4,530,302	Pedersen	7/23/85
83	4,534,740	Poldervaart	8/13/85
83	4,568,295	Poldervaart	2/4/86
83	4,665,856	Pedersen	5/19/87
83	4,669,412	Pollack	6/2/87
83	4,686,924	Poldervaart, et al.	8/18/87
83	4,735,167	White, et al.	4/5/88
83	4,784,079	Poldervaart	11/15/88
83	4,825,797	Poldervaart, et al.	5/2/89
83	4,836,813	Poldervaart	6/6/89
83	4,876,978	O'Nion, et al.	10/31/89
83	4,907,996	Poldervaart	3/31/90
83	4,917,038	Poldervaart, et al.	4/17/90
83	5,816,183	Braud, et al.	10/6/98
83	6,244,920	de Baan	6/12/01

Examiner

Signature: *S. Bauman*

Date

Considered: *11/12/04*

*Examiner: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

1 Unique citation designation number. 2 See attached kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. 3 Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). 4 For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. 5 Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. 6 Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 2.0 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, D.C. 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.

Please type a plus (+) inside this box

PTO/SB/08A (10-96)

Approved for use through 10/31/99. OMB0651-0031

Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

[Substitute for form 1449A/PTO]

[Complete if Known]

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

Application Number: 60/425,804 ; 10/712127
Filing Date: November 12, 2002
First Named Inventor: Boatman, et al.
Group Art Unit:
Examiner Name:
Attorney Docket No.: SOF153/143706

Page 3 of 3

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. 1	Foreign Patent Document			Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YY	Pages, Columns, Lines Where Relevant Figures Appear	T2
		Office/Number/Kind Code						
93		FR	7808760		Entreprise D'Equipements Mechaniques Et Hydrauliques ENG	3/24/78		
93		GB	2 019 800		Tuson, et al.	3/22/79		
93		EP	0 049 549		van Heijst	10/01/81		
93		CA	2,216,047		Vessel with a Disconnectable Riser Supporting Buoy	9/20/96		
93		CA	2,216, 181		Vessel having Quick Disconnect Means, and Disconnect Means for use in such a Vessel	9/20/96		
93		EP	0 947 464		Pollack	4/1/98		

OTHER PRIOR ART - NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. 1	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when applicable), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T2

Examiner

Signature: 8 Bas

Date

Considered: 11/17/04

*Examiner: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

1 Unique citation designation number. 2 See attached kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. 3 Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). 4 For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. 5 Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. 6 Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 2.0 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, D.C. 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.



plus (+) inside this box

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.
Institute for form 1449A/PTO]

PTO/SB/08A (10-96)
Approved for use through 10/31/99. OMB0651-0031
Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
[Complete if Known]

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

Application Number: 10/712.127
Filing Date: November 12, 2003
First Named Inventor: Boatman, et al.
Group Art Unit:
Examiner Name:
Attorney Docket No.: SOF153/143706

Page 1 of 1

U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. 1	U. S. Patent Document		Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YY	Pages, Columns, Lines Where Relevant Figures Appear
		Number/ Kind	Code			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. 1	Foreign Patent Document			Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YY	Pages, Columns, Lines Where Relevant Figures Appear	T2
		Office/Number/Kind Code						

OTHER PRIOR ART - NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. 1	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when applicable), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T2
905		Drawings showing a tower yoke system supplied for the Chinese National Oil Company by Sofec, Inc. in 1999.	

Examiner
Signature: *[Signature]*

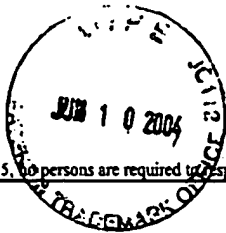
Date
Considered: 11/17/04

*Examiner: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

1 Unique citation designation number. 2 See attached kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. 3 Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). 4 For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. 5 Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. 6 Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 2.0 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, D.C. 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.

Please type a plus (+) inside this box



PTO/SB/08A (10-96)

Approved for use through 10/31/99. OMB0651-0031

Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

[Substitute for form 1449A/PTO]

[Complete if Known]

**SUPPLEMENTAL
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

Application Number: 10/712.127
Filing Date: November 12, 2003
First Named Inventor: Boatman, et al.
Group Art Unit:
Examiner Name:
Attorney Docket No.: SOF153/143706

Page 1 of 1

U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. 1	U. S. Patent Document		Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YY	Pages, Columns, Lines Where Relevant Figures Appear
		Number/ Kind Code				
B		US	441448	Hillberg	04-10-1984	
B		US	4114556	Orndorff, et al	09-19-1978	
B		US	3426719	Mizell	02-11-1969	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. 1	Foreign Patent Document			Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YY	Pages, Columns, Lines Where Relevant Figures Appear	T2
		Office/Number/Kind Code						
B		EP	0096119		Bluewater Terminal Systems	12-21-1983		
B		GB	2043008		Bluewater Terminal Systems	10-01-1980		

OTHER PRIOR ART - NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. 1	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when applicable), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T2

Examiner

Signature: B. Boatman

Date

Considered: 11/12/04

*Examiner: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

1 Unique citation designation number. 2 See attached kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. 3 Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). 4 For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. 5 Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. 6 Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 2.0 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, D.C. 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.